



# Gladstone Consolidated Fire District

Box 128  
Gladstone, North Dakota 58630

February 9, 2021

To: Senate Finance & Taxation Committee

Re: SB 2296 – Charitable Gaming Fund

Dear Senator Bell and Senate Committee Members:

**The Gladstone Consolidated Fire District urges a DO NOT PASS on SB 2296.**

The proposed state gaming commission, ten members, with an increase of five from the recognized Native American tribes in the state, creates not only a commission that may have the possibility of a too large of a group and an over representation of a common entity.

Incorporating bar-assisted redemption for electronic pull tab credit tickets, could potentially eliminate rural bar locations that provide needed income to the local charities, such as rural firefighters.

Restricting the number of device limits to 2,000 constricts the market potential that could benefit the Gladstone Consolidated Fire District. Free market incentives benefit the local charities who in turn give back to their communities.

Our Fire District is very dependent on local gaming proceeds. The volunteers on the Gladstone Consolidated Fire District work very hard at the local gaming site, with the end goal of keeping our local firefighters equipped with the best equipment that we are able to purchase. Local gaming is that source of funding - **The Gladstone Consolidated Fire District urges a DO NOT PASS on SB 2296.**

Sincerely,

Joe Wanner – Fire Chief

Gladstone Consolidated Fire District